July 27, 2016

## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING 6 NOTICE OF EX PARTE

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW Washington, DC 20554

Re: In the Matter of the Federal State Joint Board on Universal Service, WC Docket 96-45 and Universal Service Contribution Methodology, WC Docket 06-122

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On July 24, 2016 Ken Pfister of Great Plains Communications, Brian Thompson of the Consolidated Companies and the undersigned met individually with Commissioner Nelson of South Dakota and Commissioner Brisé of Florida on behalf of the Nebraska Rural Independent Companies (NRIC). We urged the Joint Board to move forward with a recommendation to the FCC to reform the universal service contribution methodology. We provided the Joint Board with a summary of the method that NRIC is proposing in the Nebraska state proceeding and urged the Commissioners to consider a similar approach to reform the federal contribution methodology. The document is included as Attachment A.

This letter is being filed pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission s rules.

Sincerely,

Cheryl L. Parrino

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Enclosure

Cc: Commissioner Nelson Commissioner Brisé